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Partnering to Address the Diverse Health Needs of Nevada Residents

LAS VEGAS — Nevada joins four other states (California, Hawaii, New Mexico, and Texas) that are considered minority-majority states, according to the most recent Census data. Nevada has one of the fastest growing minority populations in the nation and now has a 49.9% white, non-Hispanic population.

To prepare the healthcare and public health systems in Nevada to address the diverse needs of residents in a culturally appropriate and equitable manner, the Nevada Legislature passed, and Governor Sandoval signed, Assembly Bill 141 to further establish Nevada's Office of Minority Health and Equity within the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

According to Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams, "*It is imperative that we offer resources to address the unique needs of our residents and ensure barriers related to access and equity are eliminated.*" Within Assembly District 42, Bustamante Adams' district, the percentage of the population reporting being of Asian descent is double that of the state as a whole (16% as compared to 8%).

Bustamante Adams, in partnership with fellow legislator Assemblyman Tyrone Thompson, recently hosted the *Nevada Minority Health and Equity Coalition - Leadership and Development Institute* on Nov. 2, 2017 in Las Vegas. The event covered topics such as applying for state grants, understanding and accessing services through Medicaid, minority health data and inequities, the Affordable Care Act, and the future of health care. Representatives from Nevada's congressional districts were also present.

As another step in addressing the needs of her community, Bustamante Adams has partnered with the Asian Community Development Council and the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services to hold a community health fair on Sunday, Nov. 19, from 1 to 5 p.m. at 2610 South Jones Boulevard in Las Vegas. This health fair will include free health screenings and an overview of

services offered from DHHS and other agencies in the area. As this will also be held during open enrollment for health insurance, representatives will be available to help attendees with the enrollment process.

“We are excited to partner with our state and federal agencies and community partners along with the leadership of Assemblywoman Bustamante Adams to bring necessary and timely information into our diverse Asian Pacific Islander American communities. As a unique population with over 40-plus languages and cultures, we are working hard every year to educate our community at our annual health fair to ensure that no one is left behind, because eliminating healthcare disparities is one of our top priorities,” said Vida Chan Lin, President and Founder of the Asian Community Development Council.

To register for the health fair, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-health-and-wellness-fair-tickets-38315617042>.

For more information on the Asian Community Development Center, visit <https://acdcnv.org/> or call (702) 489-8866.

For more information on the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health and Equity, visit <http://dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/CHA/MH/> or call (702) 486-3587.

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Nevada Department of Health and Human Services
Helping People – It’s Who We Are and What We Do